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MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 5, 2007

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FEC ADVISORY GROUP ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY & CONSERVATION TO DISCUSS ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDING AT MEETING

TALLAHASSEE – The Florida Energy Commission’s Advisory Group on Energy Efficiency and Conservation will hold its second meeting on June 7 from 1 p.m. until completion in Room 117 of the Knott Building, 100 W. St. Augustine Rd. in Tallahassee.

Advisory group members will discuss energy efficient building and building codes in relation to the report the FEC is slated to present to the Legislature in December.

Presenters will include Mark Futrell, economic analyst for the Florida Public Service Commission; Ann Stanton, building code analyst for the Florida Building Commission; Jack Glenn, the Florida Home Builders Association’s director of technical services; and Philip Fairey, deputy director of the Florida Solar Energy Center.

“The time for energy efficient building and construction has come,” said Mike Hightower, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Advisory Group chairman. “The technology and training necessary to build efficiently are already available.”

This year, the FEC has met with state and nationally renowned scientists and climate-change specialists, and with members of the general public. At Commission meetings, members of the public have voiced a desire for energy efficient homes.

“Construction consumers are beginning to see the benefits of energy-efficient building,” Hightower said. “A slightly higher up-front cost is offset by the continuous financial, health and environmental benefits that energy efficient building brings.”

The Advisory Group on Energy Efficiency and Conservation is using a public-involvement process that will ultimately produce for the Florida Energy Commission guidance on its efficiency-related policy recommendations to the Legislature.

About the Advisory Group on Energy Efficiency and Conservation

The Climate Change Advisory Group, one of four subgroups the FEC created at its inaugural Feb. 9 meeting, exists to help the Florida Energy Commission fulfill its charge to explore issues relating to energy efficiency and conservation in Florida, and to develop incentives and methods to encourage energy consumers to use energy more efficiently.

About the Florida Energy Commission

The Florida Energy Commission is a nine-member panel jointly appointed by the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives. It is charged with recommending to the Florida Legislature the best ways to secure Florida's energy future using the guiding principles of reliability, efficiency, affordability and diversity.

The Commission's immediate focus is on renewable energy sources, climate change, conservation, efficiency and power generation and transmission to address Florida's long-term energy needs and goals. But the long-term goal is to take a look at all aspects of the many energy options available to Floridians.

By Dec. 31, the FEC will develop a report that will document its progress, and make the first of a series of annual recommendations designed to help guide the Florida Legislature in choosing best practices and options for Florida's energy future.

Visit the Florida Energy Commission's Web site at www.floridaenergycommission.gov.

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